



WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL

Project ID: DC3941

Title: Student Education: Water Environment Studies in Schools Training Program

Focus Categories: Education, None

Keywords: Environment, Environmental Studies, Water Science, Middle School/Junior High Schools Science Curriculum

Start Date: 03/01/2001

End Date: 02/28/2002

Federal Funds: \$10,000

Non-Federal Matching Funds: \$25,652

Congressional District: DC

Principal Investigator:

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Abstract

Key to the conservation of our natural world is the education of the citizenry. Some level of destruction by people is out of ignorance. However, education for the masses has not been introduced into the institutions of learning at the level it will take to overcome the problems. This Water Environment Studies in Schools ("WESS") Teacher Training Program is the first step to initiating teachers in the local public school system to elements that can provide them with a foundation for teaching environmental studies at the same level of importance as other disciplines in the school day.

The Anacostia River is the environmental focus of this Teacher Training Program. The Anacostia River Watershed is located in a densely populated area and has suffered years of environmental neglect. The watershed has become known as a "degraded urban ecosystem." An informed citizenry, empowered by the realization of the benefits of healthy rivers and watersheds along with the knowledge that they know what to do to improve the river can provide substantial support in the pursuit of clean rivers.